

REMARKS

The amendments set out above and the following remarks are believed responsive to the points raised by the Office Action dated April 24, 2004. In view of the amendments set out above and the following remarks, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The Pending Claims

Claim 2 has been canceled, and claims 1 and 3-12 remain pending. Claims 13-15 have been added.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended, and claims 13-15 have been added, to describe the invention more clearly. No new matter has been added, the basis for the amended claim language may be found within the original specification, claims, and drawings.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant is pleased to note the Office Action indicates claims 2-3, 7-9, and 11, are indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the respective base claims and any intervening claims. The claims have been so rewritten as noted below.

The Office Action

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. According to the Office Action, the term “locking” should be inserted before the second use of the term “mechanism.”

The claim has been amended to improve the form of the claim and more distinctly claim the subject matter in accordance with the Examiner’s suggestion.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that with these remarks and the amendment to the claim, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112 has now been overcome and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,953,696 to Reimann et al (hereinafter referred to a “Reimann”).

The rejection is respectfully traversed. However, in order to expedite matters and to allow the application to pass to issuance quickly, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 2, thus obviating the rejection in view of Reimann. Claim 3 has been amended to now depend from allowable claim 1. Moreover, claim 13 has been added to include the limitations of claims 1, 4, 10, and 11, claim 14 has been added to include the

In re Appln. of Kin Yu WONG
Application No. 10/718,679

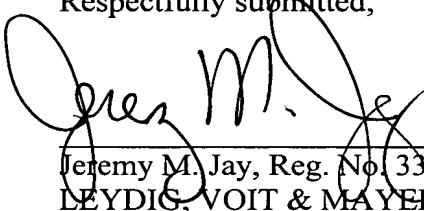
limitations of claims 1 and 4-7, and claim 15 has been added to include the limitations of claims 1, 4-6, and 8.

Conclusion

In view of the amendment and remarks recited herein, the application is considered in good and proper form for allowance, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

If in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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